

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A processor-readable medium comprising processor-executable instructions for personalizing karaoke, the processor-executable instructions comprising instructions for performing a method, the method comprising:

~~segmenting visual content to produce a plurality of sub-shots, wherein the instructions for segmenting visual content segment video;~~

segmenting music to produce a plurality of music sub-clips, wherein the segmenting establishes boundaries between the music sub-clips at beat positions within the music, the beat positions being located according to a rhythm or a tempo of the music, or at onset positions within the music when beat positions are not obvious during a portion of the music, the onset positions being initiations of distinguishable tones of the portion of the music, wherein lengths of the sub-clips are shorter than a maximum of sub-clips length;

segmenting a visual content to produce a plurality of sub-shots at a maximum peak of a frame difference curve, wherein the visual content presents a story line and the segmenting is repeated until lengths of all sub-shots are shorter than a maximum of sub-shot length, the maximum of sub-short length being a little longer in duration than the maximum of music sub-clips;

selecting important-filtering sub-shots from within the plurality of sub-shots according to importance and quality;

selecting sub-shots such that they are uniformly distributed within the video visual content to preserve the story line; and

shortening one or more of the plurality of sub-shots to a length of a corresponding music sub-clip from within the plurality of music sub-clips;

obtaining lyrics corresponding to the music from a file;

coordinating delivery of the lyrics with the music using timing information contained within the file; and

displaying at least some of the plurality of sub-shots as a background to lyrics associated with the plurality of music sub-clips.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 4 1, wherein filtering the plurality of sub-shots according to quality comprises:

examining color entropy within each of the plurality of sub-shots for indications of diffusion of color; and

if color entropy is low, analyzing each of the plurality of sub-shots to detect motion more than a threshold indicating interest and less than a threshold indicating low camera and/or object movement; and

selecting sub-shots having acceptable motion and/or color entropy scores.

6. (Currently Amended) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 4-1, wherein filtering the plurality of sub-shots according to importance comprises :

evaluating frames within a sub-shot according to attention indices; and

averaging the attention indices for the frames to determine if the sub-shot should be included or excluded.

7. (Currently Amended) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 4-1, wherein filtering the plurality of sub-shots according to importance comprises:

analyzing for camera motion, for object motion and for specific objects within the sub-shots; and

filtering the sub-shots according to the analysis.

8. (Previously Presented) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein each sub-shot comprises a segment of video of at least a predetermined length based on a length of the music sub-clips and segmented based on a magnitude of difference between adjacent frames .

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein selecting ~~important~~ sub-shots comprises:

evaluating color entropy, camera motion, object motion and object detection; and

selecting the important sub-shots based on the evaluation.

11. (Currently Amended) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein selecting ~~uniformly distributed~~ sub-shots comprises:

evaluating normalized entropy of the sub-shots along a time line of video from which the sub-shots were obtained.

12. (Previously Presented) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein segmenting visual content comprises assigning photographs to be sub-shots.

13. (Previously Presented) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 12, wherein assigning photographs to be sub-shots comprises:

- rejecting photographs having problems with quality; and
- rejecting photographs within a group of very similar photographs wherein a photo within the group has been selected.

14. (Previously Presented) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 12, wherein assigning photographs to be sub-shots comprises:

- converting at least one of the photographs to video.

15. (Original) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the visual content comprises home video and photographs in digital formats.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein segmenting music into the plurality of music sub-clips comprises bounding music sub-clip length according to:

minimum length = $\min\{\max\{2 * \text{tempo}, 2\}, 4\}$ and

maximum length = minimum + 2.

18. (Previously Presented) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein segmenting the music comprises:
establishing music sub-clips' length within a range of 3 to 5 seconds.

19. (Previously Presented) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 18, wherein segmenting the music comprises :
establishing boundaries for the music sub-clips at sentence breaks.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim ~~20~~ 1, wherein obtaining the lyrics comprises sending the file over a network to a karaoke device as a part of a pay-for-play service.

22. (Previously Presented) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:
querying a database of songs by humming a portion of a desired song;
and

selecting the desired song from among a number of possibilities suggested by an interface to the database.

23. (Currently Amended) A processor-readable medium comprising processor-executable instructions for integrating lyrics, music and video content suitable for karaoke, the processor-executable instructions comprising instructions for performing a method, the method comprising:

receiving a request for a file associated with a specified song, wherein the file comprises:

music, lyrics, and timing values associated with the lyrics;

fulfilling the request for the file by sending the file associated with the specified song;

segmenting the music to produce a plurality of music sub-clips, wherein the segmenting establishes boundaries between the music sub-clips at beat positions within the music, wherein the beat positions are located according to a rhythm or a tempo of the music;

segmenting a visual content representing a story line to produce a plurality of sub-shots of a length corresponding music sub-clips from the plurality of music sub-clips, such that the plurality of sub-shots are uniformly distributed within the visual content to preserve the story line; and

outputting the plurality of music sub-clips together with corresponding sub-shots of visual content, wherein the visual content is configured as a background to the lyrics associated with the music sub-clips.

24. (Previously Presented) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 23, wherein obtaining the lyrics comprises sending the file over a network to a karaoke device.

25. (Currently Amended) A personalized karaoke device, comprising:
a music analyzer configured to segment a music to produce a plurality of music sub-clips, wherein the segmenting establishes boundaries between the music sub-clips at beat positions within the music of a song, wherein the beat positions are located according to a rhythm or tempo of the music;

a visual content analyzer configured to define and select visual content sub-shots, wherein the visual content analyzer is configured to select sub-shots of greater importance consistent with creating a uniform distribution of the sub-shots over a runtime of a source video, wherein the source video presents a story line and the sub-shots preserve the story line;

a lyric formatter configured to time delivery of syllables of lyrics of the song; and

a composer configured to:

assemble the music-sub clips with the visual content sub-shots;
adjust length of the sub-shots to correspond to the music sub-clips;
and
superimpose the syllables of the lyrics of the song over the sub-shots.

26. (Original) The personalized karaoke device of claim 25, wherein the music analyzer is configured to segment the song with a strong onset between each of the music sub-clips.

27. (Original) The personalized karaoke device of claim 25, wherein the music analyzer is configured to segment the song with a beat between each of the music sub-clips.

28. (Original) The personalized karaoke device of claim 25, wherein the music analyzer is configured to segment the song automatically into sub-clips, each having a duration that is a function of song tempo.

29. (Original) The personalized karaoke device of claim 25, wherein the visual content analyzer is configured to segment video into sub-shots.

30. (Original) The personalized karaoke device of claim 25, wherein the visual content analyzer is configured to access folders of home video and photographs containing content from which the sub-shots are derived.

31. (Original) The personalized karaoke device of claim 25, wherein the visual content analyzer is configured to assemble still photographs, each of which is a sub-shot.

32. (Original) The personalized karaoke device of claim 25, wherein the visual content analyzer is configured to select from among sub-shots according to ranked importance, wherein importance is gauged by detection of color entropy, detection of object motion within the sub-shot, detection of camera motion during the sub-shot, and/or detection of a face within the sub-shot.

33. (Original) The personalized karaoke device of claim 25, wherein the visual content analyzer is configured to filter out sub-shots having low image quality as measured by low entropy and low motion intensity.

34. (Previously Presented) The personalized karaoke device of claim 25, wherein the visual content analyzer is configured to define sub-shots from visual content comprising photographic and video content .

35. (Previously Presented) The personalized karaoke device of claim 34, wherein the visual content analyzer is configured to reject photographs of low quality by detecting over and under exposure, overly homogeneous images and blurred images.

36. (Original) The personalized karaoke device of claim 25, wherein the visual content analyzer is configured to organize photographs by date of exposure and by scene, thereby obtaining photographs having a relationship.

37. (Previously Presented) The personalized karaoke device of claim 36, wherein the visual content analyzer is configured to reject photographs which are members within a group of very similar photographs, wherein one of the group has already been selected.

38. (Original) The personalized karaoke device of claim 25, wherein the visual content analyzer is configured to:

detect an attention area within a photograph; and

create a photo to video sub-shot based on the attention area, wherein the video includes panning and/or zooming.

39. (Original) The personalized karaoke device of claim 25, wherein the lyric formatter is configured to consume a file detailing timing of each syllable and each sentence of the lyrics.

40. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

means for creating music sub-clips by segmenting the music to define boundaries between the music sub-clips at beat positions within a song, wherein the beat positions are located according to a rhythm or tempo of the music;

means for defining and selecting visual content sub-shots from a visual content, such that the sub-shots are uniformly distributed within the visual content, wherein the visual content presents a story line and the sub-shots preserve the story line;

means for timing delivery of syllables of lyrics of the song; and

means for assembling the music sub-clips with the visual content sub-shots, and to adjust length of the sub-shots to correspond to length of the music sub-clips, and to superimpose the syllables of the lyrics of the song over the sub-shots.

41. (Original) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the means for defining and selecting visual content sub-shots is a video analyzer configured to segment video into sub-shots.

42. (Original) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the means for defining and selecting visual content sub-shots is a video analyzer configured to access folders of home video and photographs containing content from which the sub-shots are derived.

43. (Original) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the means for defining and selecting visual content sub-shots is a video analyzer configured for:
detecting an attention area within a photograph; and
creating a photo to video sub-shot based on the attention area, wherein the video includes panning and zooming.

44. (Original) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the means for timing delivery of syllables of lyrics of the song is a lyric formatter configured for consuming a file detailing timing of each syllable and each sentence of the lyrics and for rendering the lyrics syllable by syllable.

45. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 40 further comprising:

means for displaying assembled visual content comprising sub-shots with music sub-clips; and

wherein:

the means for defining and selecting visual content sub-shots, such that the sub-shots are uniformly distributed within the visual content is further configured for selecting uniformly distributed sub-shots via evaluating normalized entropy of the sub-shots along a time line of visual content from which the sub-shots were obtained; and

the means for displaying the assembled visual content comprising sub-shots with music sub-clips is configured such that displaying the assembled visual content preserves a storyline as represented by the visual content.